

THE  
Duseks

est. 1989

**WHAT'S A LOVE** story without a serendipitous magical airport scene?

Coaches Maggie and Doug Archer's story will get there, but before all that, the two went to college in North Dakota in 2009. Maggie was playing softball for the school and Doug was playing basketball. They met in a student-athlete class and discovered they were both from Kansas City.

Maggie was helping out a friend by dropping them off at the airport to head home for winter break when she miraculously ran into Doug. He explained that he was heading back to his hometown near Kansas City and was about to board a flight, so Maggie explained that she was also going to fly out

THE  
Hairs

est. 2008

**COACH SHAWN HAIR** and business teacher Jennifer Hair's love story is a scene straight out of "High School Musical" — except a teacher version with almost no musical numbers.

The pair met in 2005 at East while Jennifer was coaching cheer and Shawn was coaching basketball, spending Friday nights under the same fluorescent lights of the gymnasium.

Jennifer grew close to Shawn's kids, Grace and Luke, as they hung out

EAST'S  
Sweethearts

As Valentine's Day approaches, discover the love stories of three East staff couples

**ATHLETIC COUNSELOR**

**JIM** and Athletic Secretary Jeanne Dusek's love story is a family affair. They originally met at a Thanksgiving dinner in 1988 in Virginia Beach where Jeanne's brother and his wife lived — who just so happened to be Jim's sister.

Hitting it off over dinner led to the two exchanging numbers and quickly embarking on a "You Got Mail" romance — becoming digital pen pals for

the rest of the month.

"In December of '88, I went back out [to Virginia Beach] and ever since then we were inseparable," Jeanne said. "Then I moved out [there] in June of '89."

After six months of dating and a six-month engagement, the pair got married in December just a year after they met.

"Sometimes the journey of growing together makes that bond," Jim said. "Because honestly, we didn't date a lot. We were [dating for] six months and then we were engaged and then married, so there was a lot of growing that we

did together and that made us closer."

After having three sons and spending 27 years in the Navy, Jim retired and the family moved back to Kansas City. Although it wasn't planned, they both happened to end up with jobs at East.

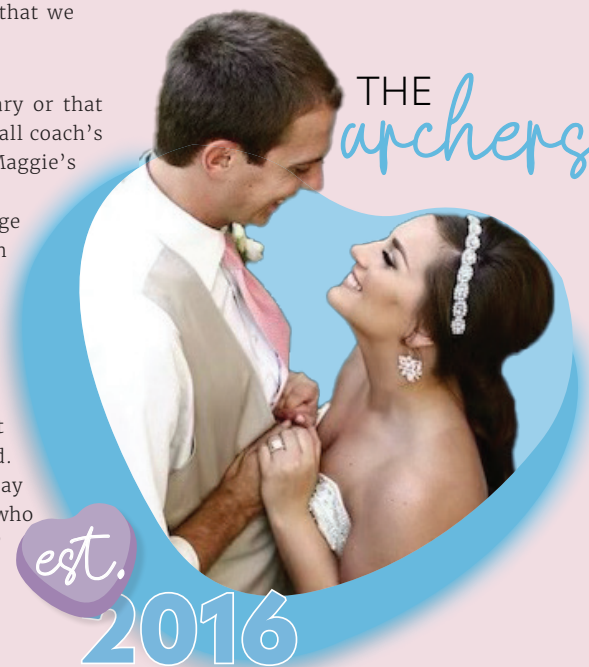
Though they work at different ends of the school, the couple is grateful to know they have someone so close if they ever need anything.

"It's a comfort thing, you know?" Jeanne said. "It's kind of like a good chocolate or a good french fry."

parents share the same anniversary or that one of Doug's high school basketball coach's dad was the pastor who married Maggie's parents.

They dated throughout college and continued to live in North Dakota after graduation. Finally, the pair got married on Sept. 10, 2016, and moved back to Kansas City in 2019.

"For being in the same department, our paths don't overlap all the time," Maggie said. "But it's nice at the end of the day to have a spouse who gets it, who understands the life of a teacher."



est. 2016

THE  
archers

on the bench while Shawn coached games. At the time, Grace was in kindergarten and loved watching cheerleaders perform so she'd go over and sit with Jennifer to hang out with the cheerleaders during the games.

Shawn appreciated Jennifer's kindness towards his kids and eventually started seeing her outside of school as friends.

A year later, faculty began to question if anything was going on, so they announced that their relationship was official.

"She really is my best friend," Shawn said. "And she's helped me through so much."

On Oct. 18, 2008, the two tied the knot

on their Lancer love story. Through nearly 16 years of marriage, their family grew with the birth of their two daughters — now 14-year-old Annabelle and 10-year-old Caroline.

Having their family be a part of the East community came naturally.

"Our nanny is a senior at East, and so we love our Lancers enough that we trust them with our own kids, our own dogs," Jennifer said. "It's just integrated into our family structure and our marriage."